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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

S1022/8602

Serial No.:

Unassigned

Filing Date:

Herewith

For:

**DESIGN FLOW CHECKER** 

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

Unassigned

**Box Patent Application** 

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** 

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Sir:

## IN THE CLAIMS

3. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of: for each data store generating a list therein containing an entry for each first dependent file in the data store, said entry including a first record having details of the first dependent file.

5. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

selecting the file locator from a file locator means which contains a plurality of file locators; and

selecting a file reader from file reader means which contain a plurality of file readers.

- 6. A method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined parameter comprises the date on which the data file was last modified.
- 7. A method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined parameter is a UNIX date stamp.